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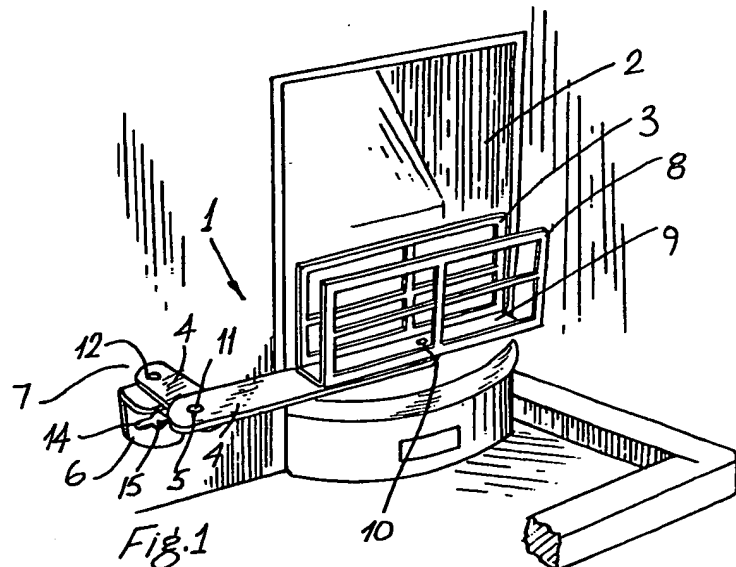
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A4B Class 28 (Years 1877—1883)

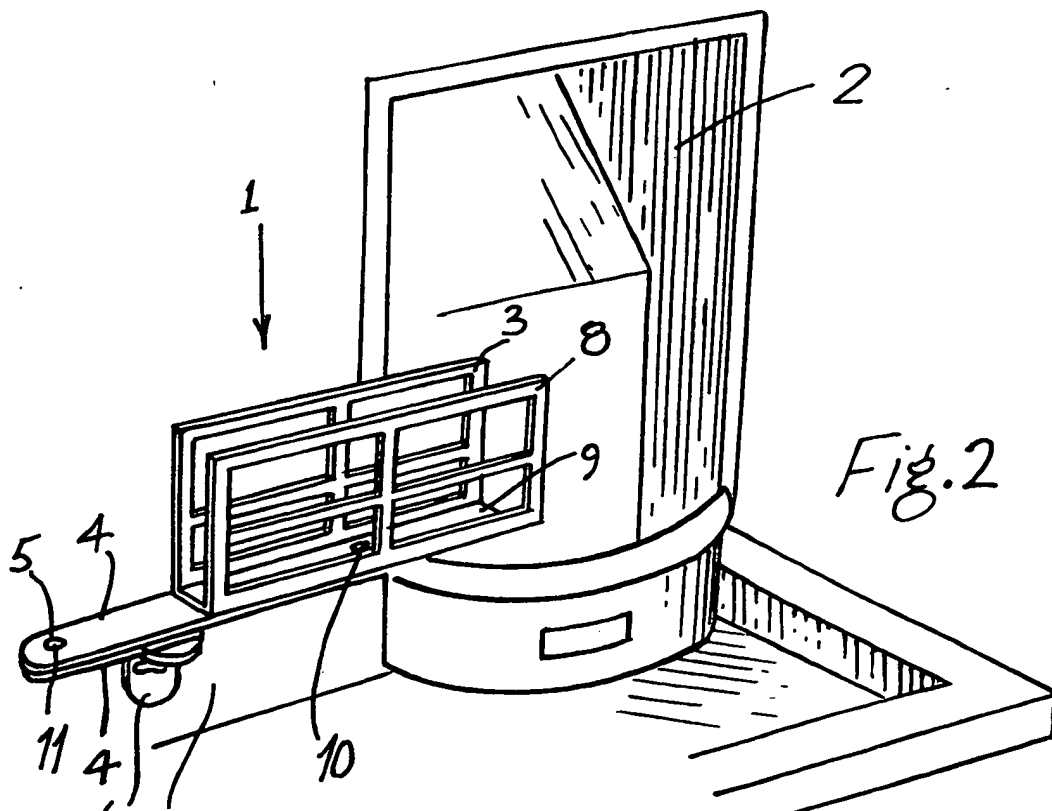
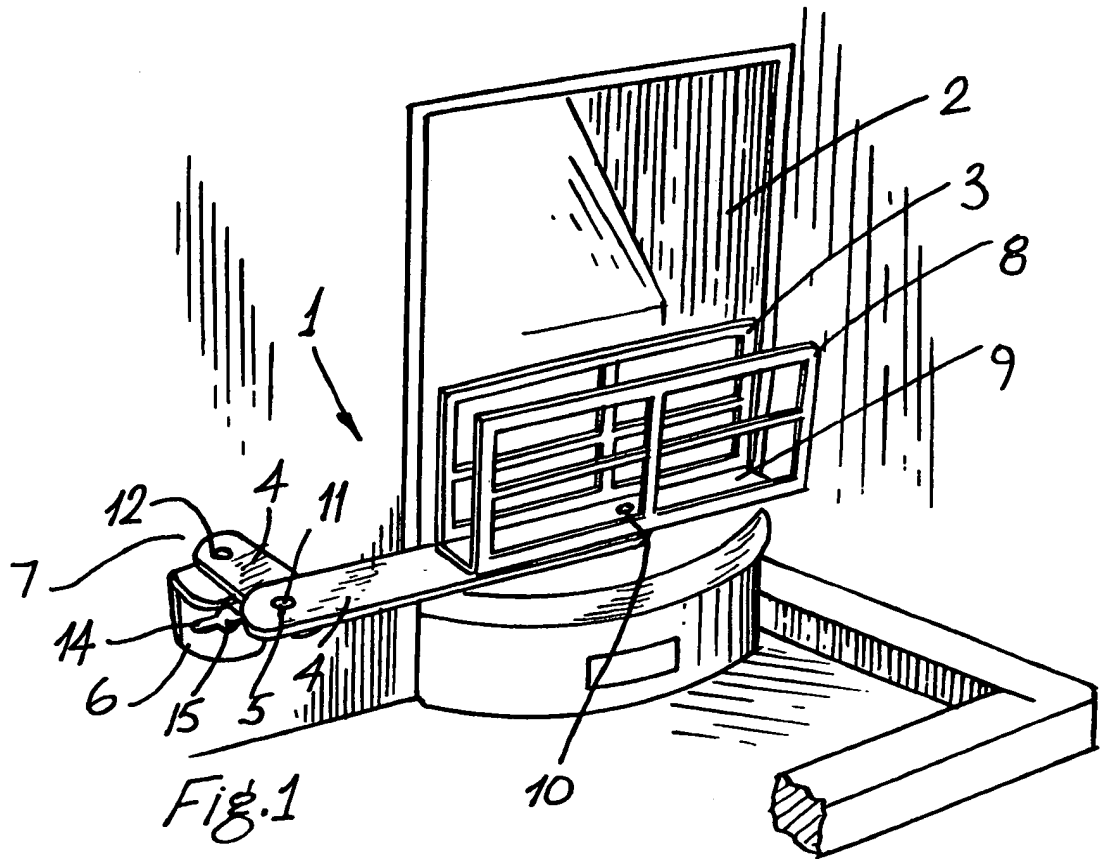
(54) Apparatus for Supporting an Article

(57) The invention provides apparatus for supporting an article in front of a heat source, for example, bread to be toasted, and provides a support means (3) having a base (9) and side members (8) for receiving the bread. The support means (3) is pivotal on a support arm (4) which is in turn pivotal in an anchor bracket (6). When one side of the bread is toasted, by rotating the support means through 180° the other side may be toasted.

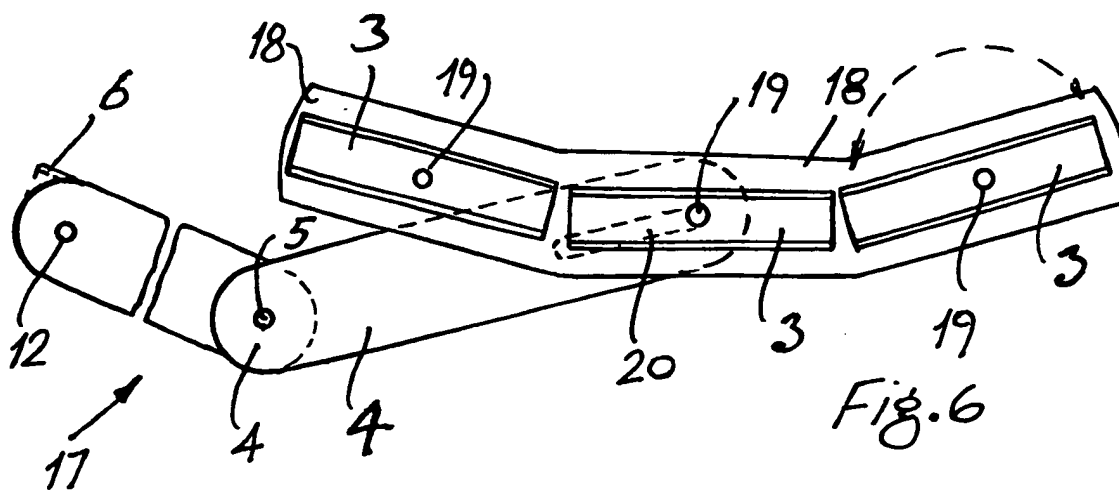
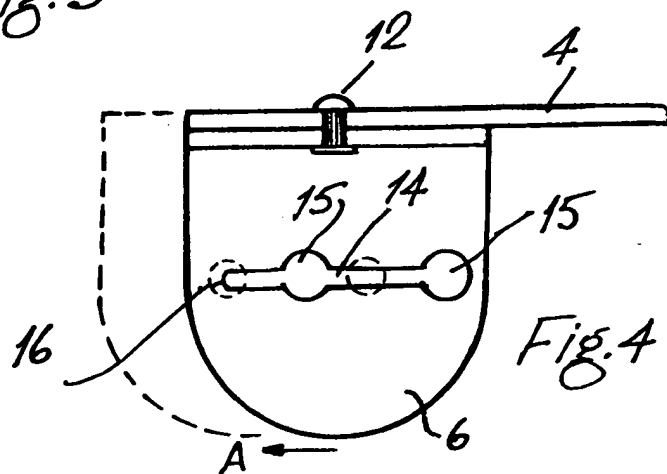
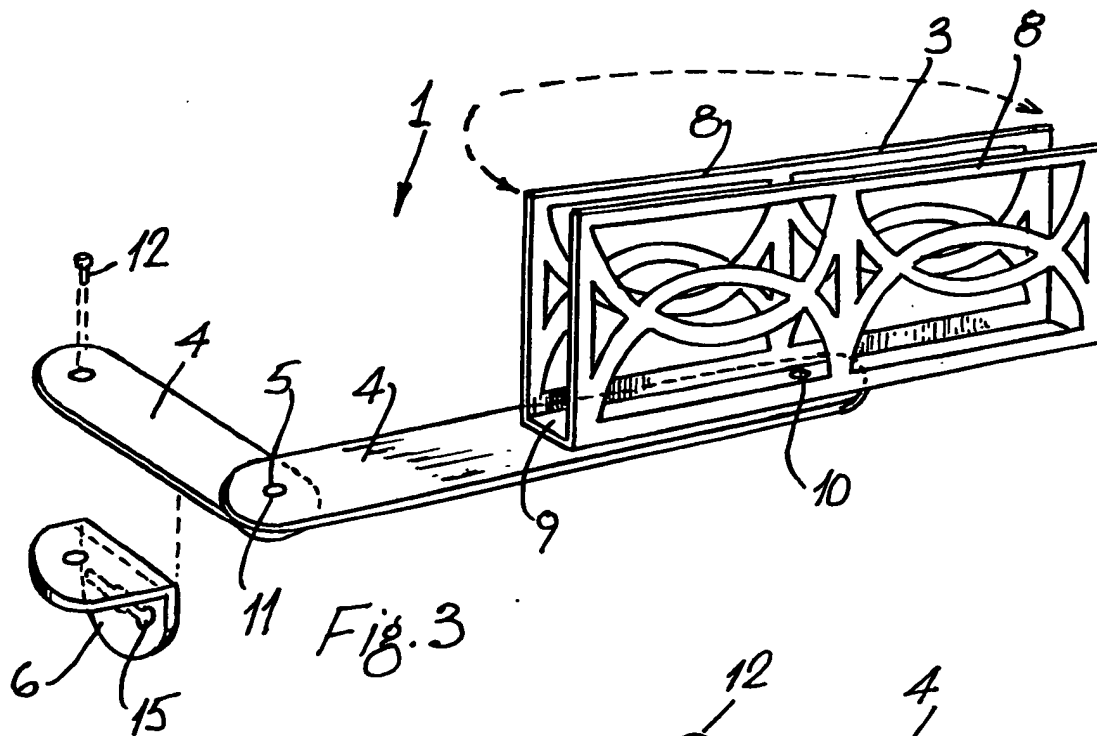


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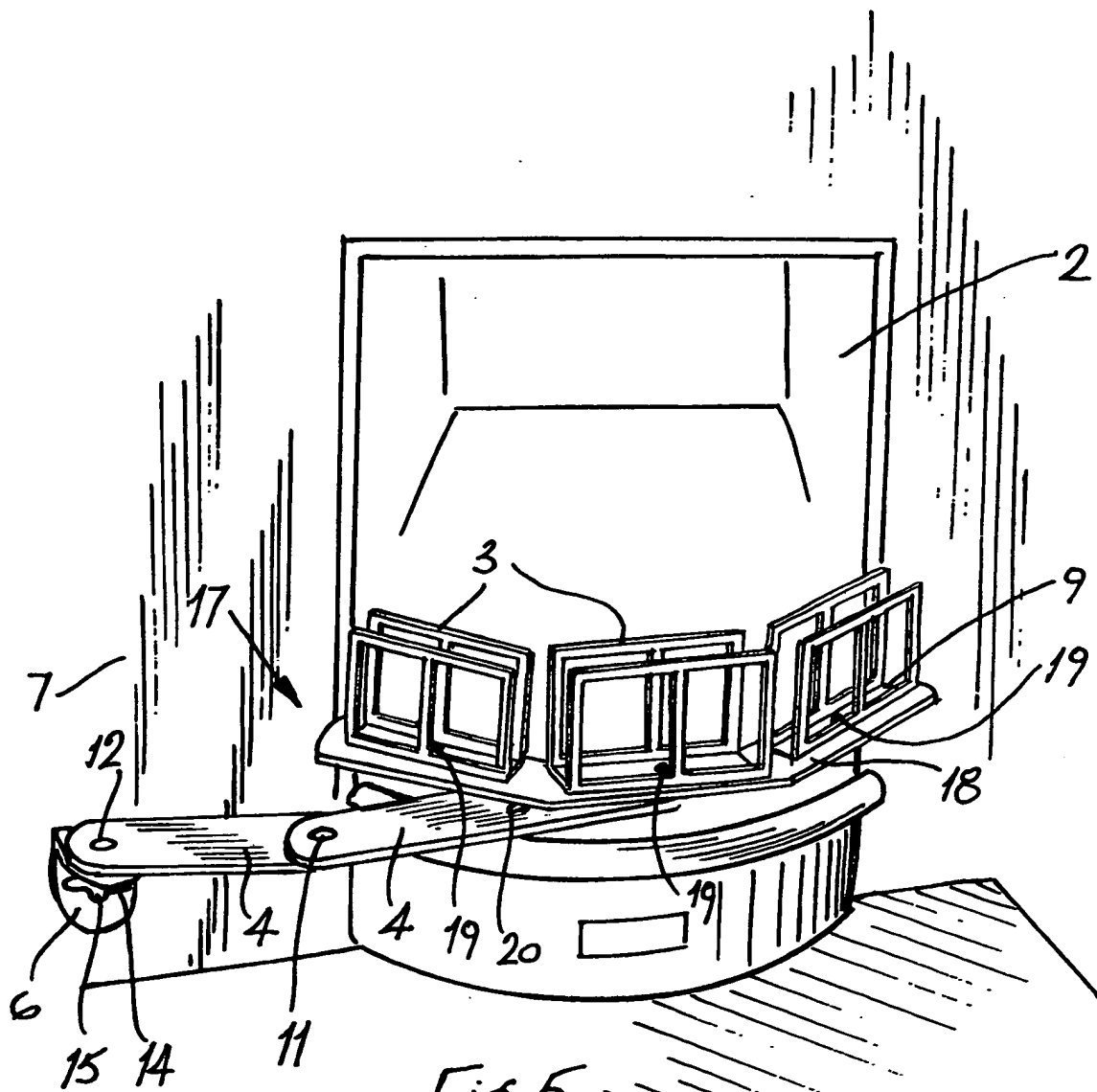
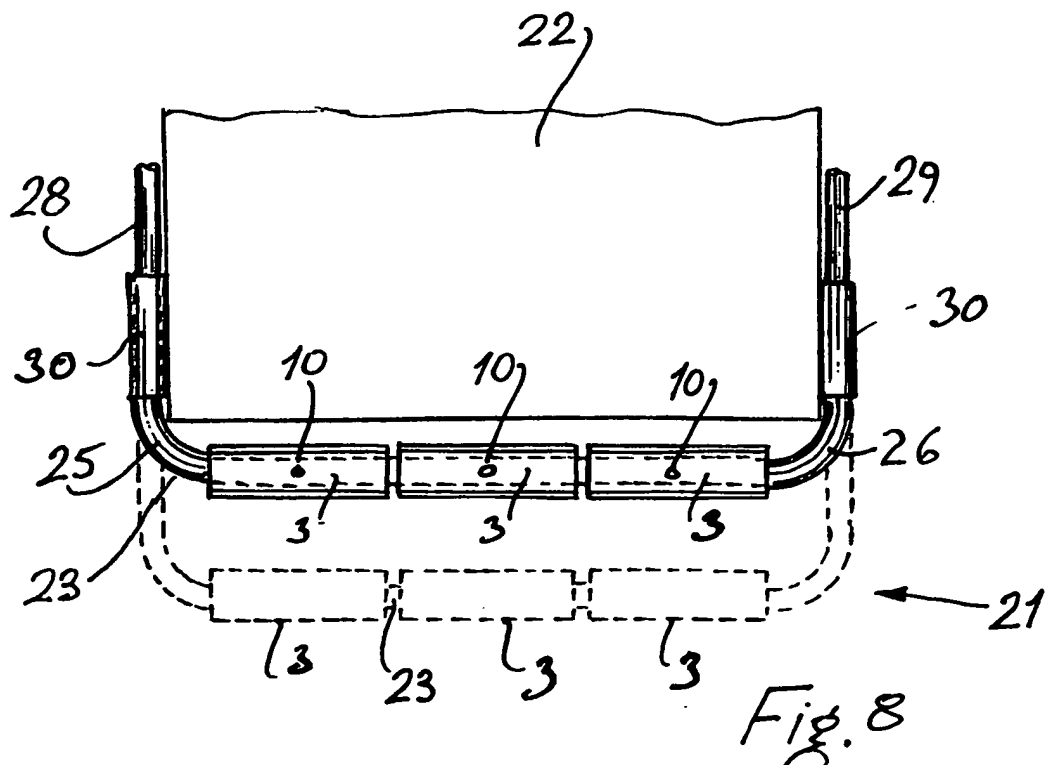
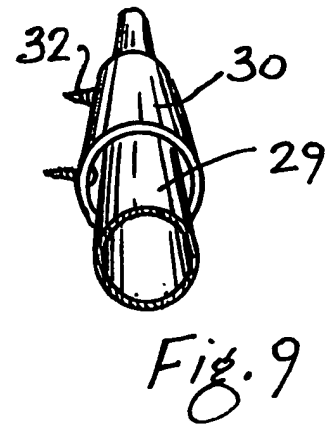
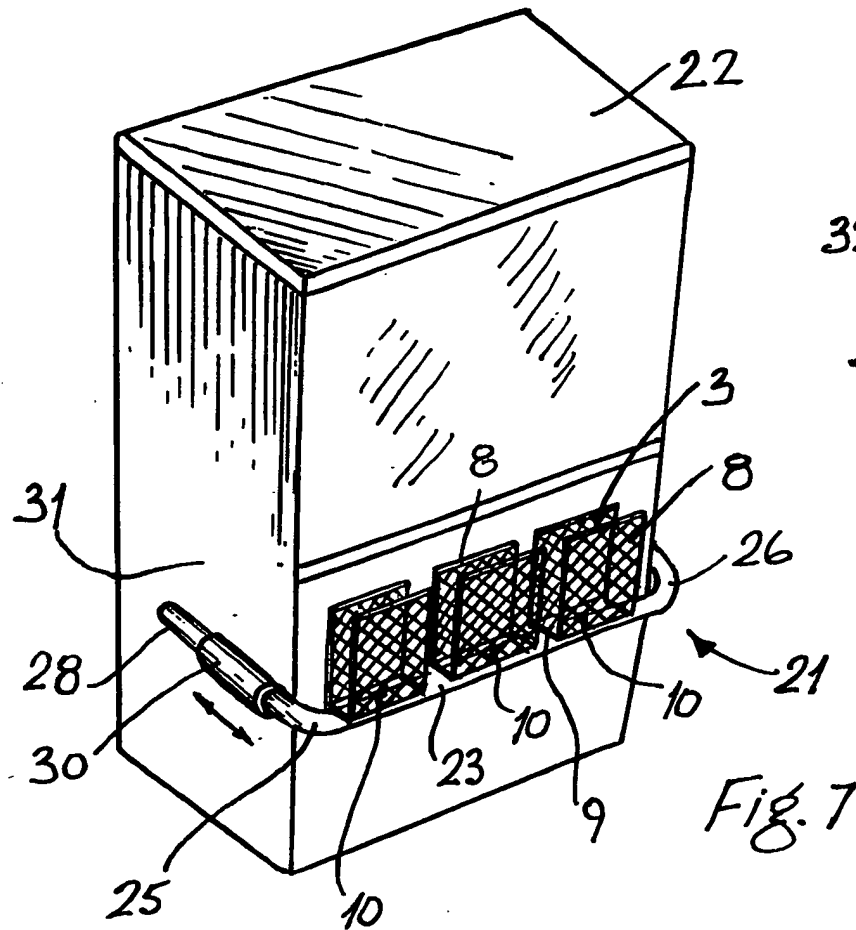


Fig. 5

4/7



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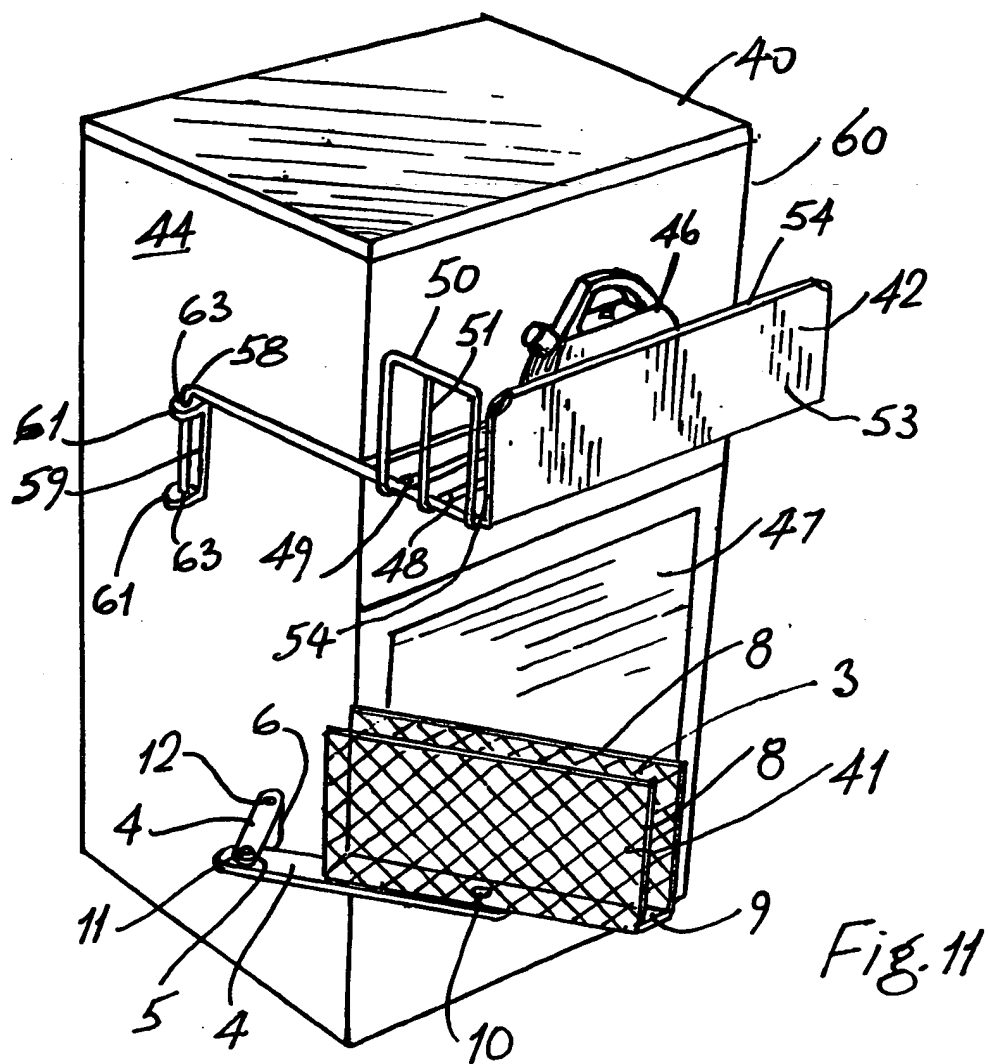


Fig. 11

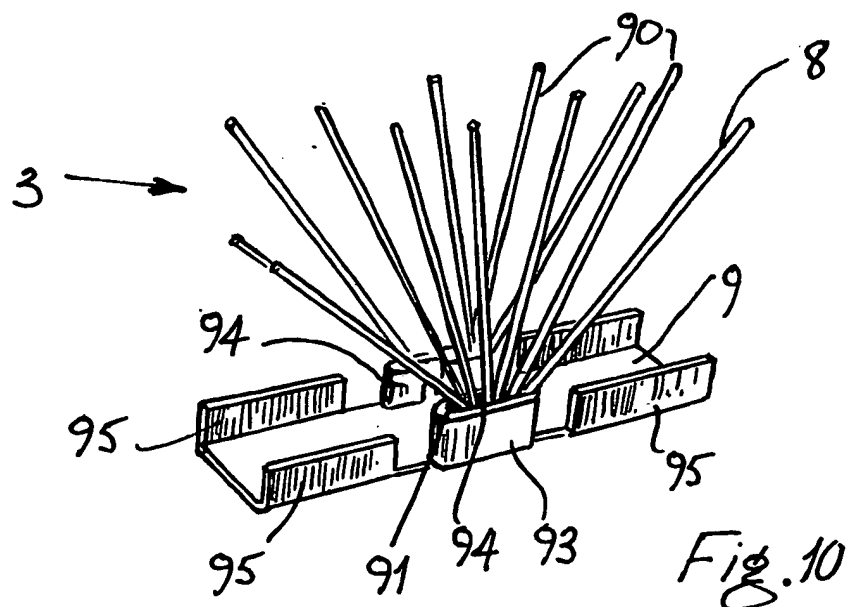


Fig. 10

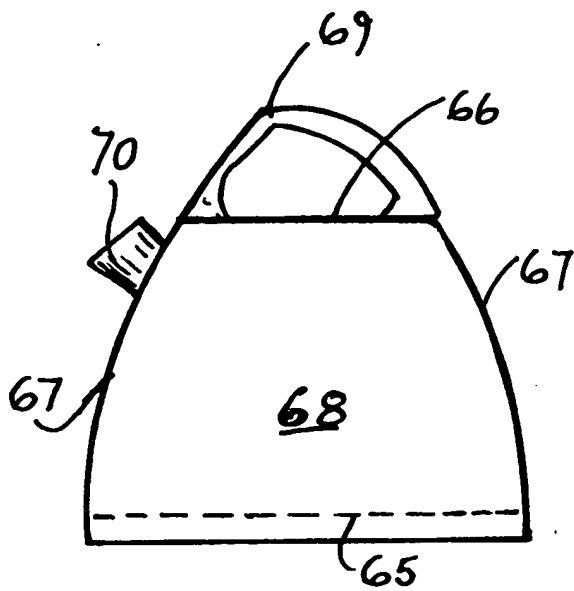


Fig. 12

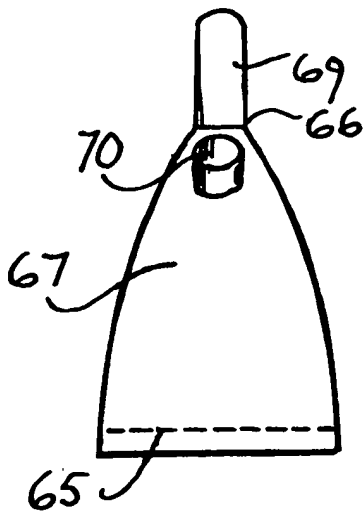
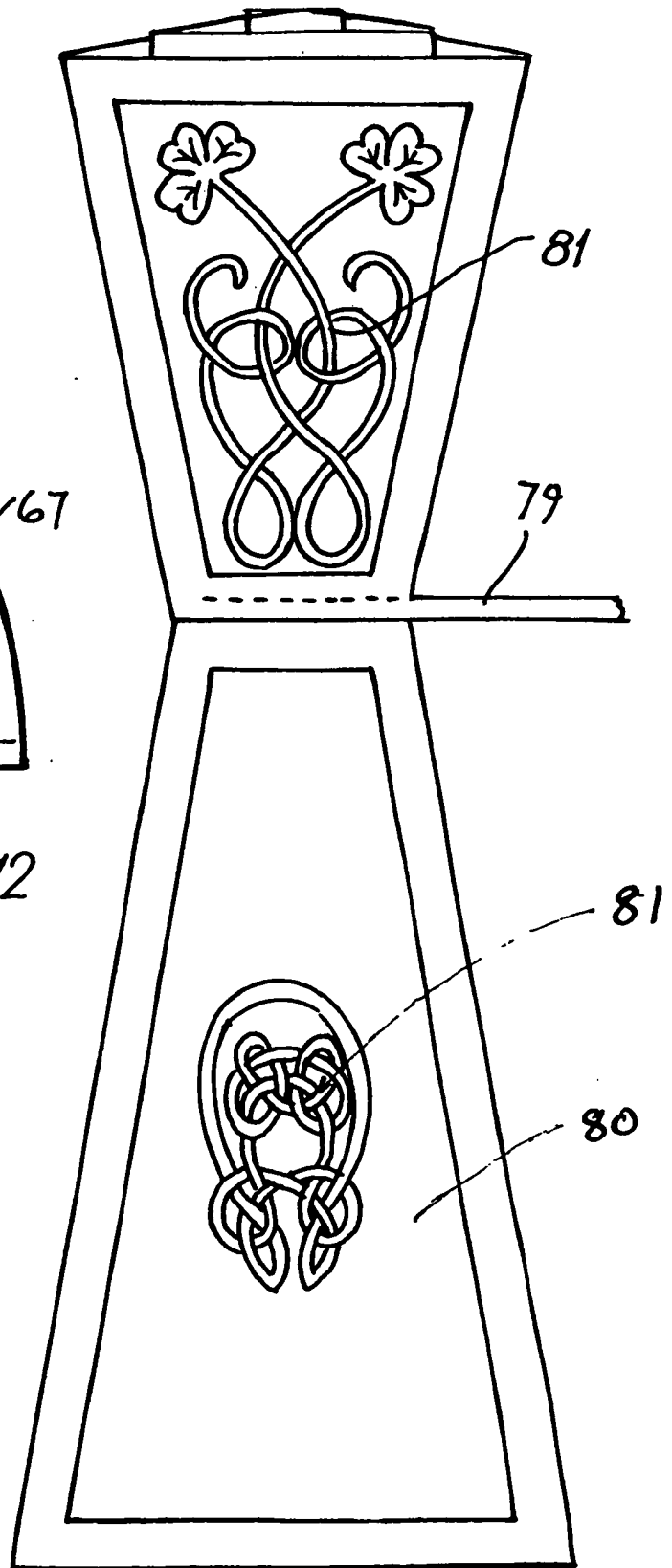


Fig. 13



7/7

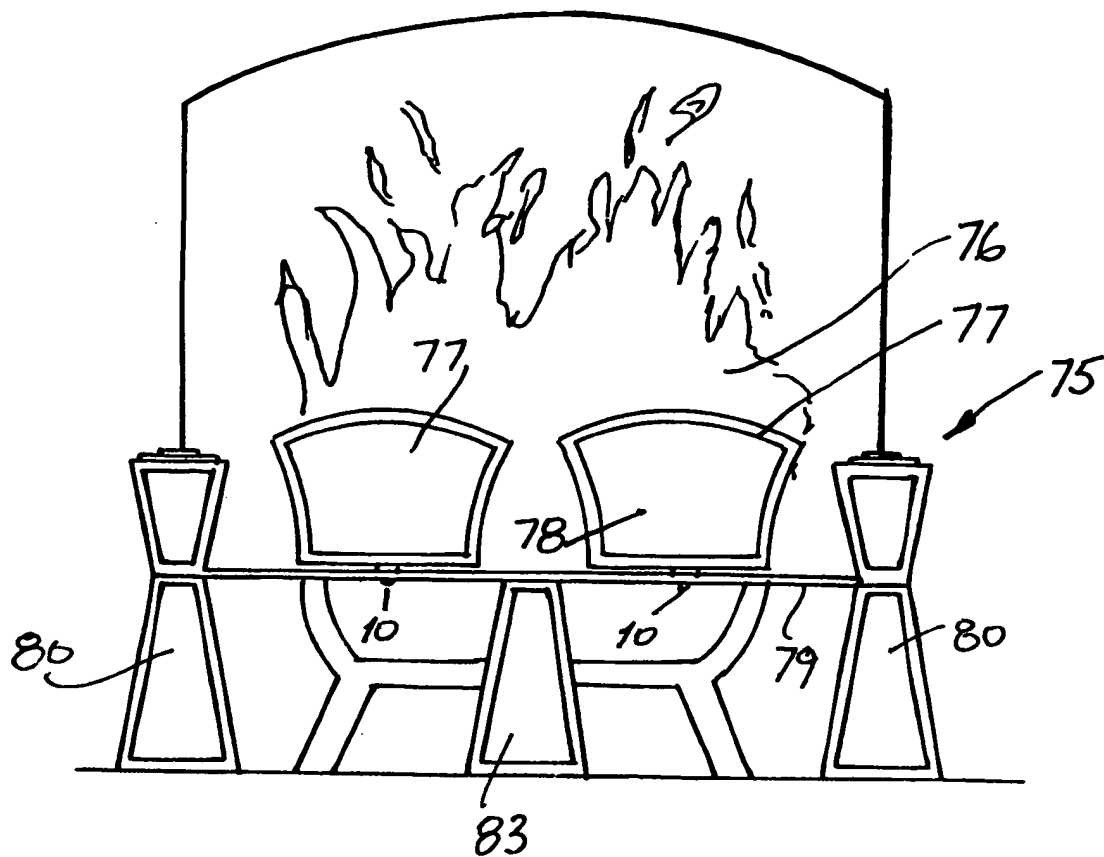


Fig. 14

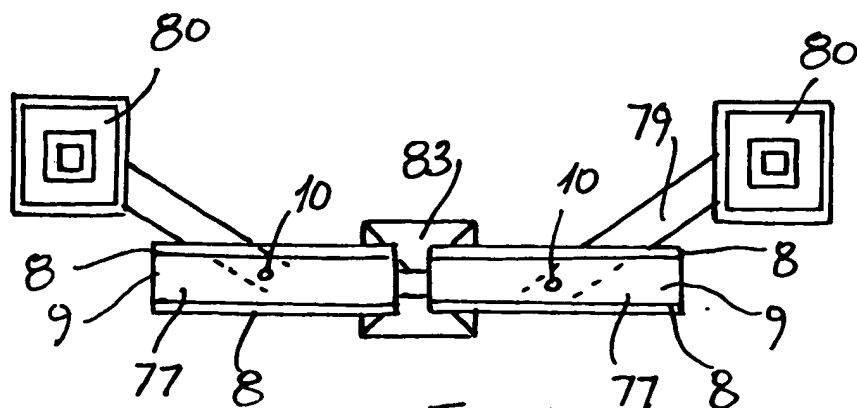


Fig. 15

SPECIFICATION

Apparatus for Supporting an Article

The present invention relates to apparatus for supporting an article in front of a heat source, and in particular, for supporting bread to be toasted, or a kettle.

In general, bread is toasted in a toaster or under the grill of a cooker. This however, requires the use of energy exclusively for toasting, which leads to additional expense. If it were possible, it would be preferable to utilise an existing heat source to toast the bread. Unfortunately, other than supporting the toast on a fork or the like to hold it in front of a fire, no other apparatus exists. It will be appreciated that to hold bread to be toasted in front of the fire on a fork is time-consuming, and accordingly, not feasible.

Further, where water is to be boiled, again, either an electric kettle is required or a pot or kettle on a gas or electric cooker. This also is uneconomical as a separate heat source exclusively for heating the kettle has to be provided.

Accordingly, there is need for apparatus which will support bread to be toasted or indeed any other article to be warmed or heated in front of the heat source, for example, a kettle.

The present invention is directed towards providing such apparatus.

According to the invention there is provided apparatus for supporting an article adjacent a heat source, the apparatus comprising an article support means pivotal on a support arm, and a mounting member for mounting the support arm adjacent the heat source, the article support means being pivotal on the arm to permit both sides of the support means to face the heat source.

Preferably, one end of the support arm is connected to the mounting member and the other to the article support means.

In one embodiment of the invention the support arm is pivotally connected to the mounting member so that the article support means is pivotal from a position adjacent the heat source to a position away from the heat source. The support arm may also be releasably mounted in the mounting member.

In another embodiment of the invention the mounting member is provided by an anchor bracket for mounting the support arm to a wall, framework or a body member adjacent the heat source. Preferably, the anchor bracket is releasably mountable to the wall, framework or body member.

Alternatively, the mounting member is provided by a ground engaging upstanding member, and the support arm extends therefrom. Preferably, a pair of ground engaging upstanding support members are provided and the support arm extends between both.

Preferably, the article support means is to

construction for supporting the bread therebetween. Advantageously, the article support means comprises a base member with a pair of spaced-apart upstanding side members. Preferably, the base member is pivotal on the support arm.

In another embodiment of the invention two article support means are mounted side by side on a support bracket, which is pivotal in turn on the support arm and preferably, the article support means are pivotal on the support bracket.

Advantageously, the support arm is pivotal intermediate its ends.

In one embodiment of the invention the apparatus is adapted for mounting in front of an open fire, while in another embodiment of the invention the apparatus is suitable for mounting to a gas heater, or a portable gas heater, and in another case it is suitable for mounting on an electric fire.

In a further embodiment of the invention the support arm is slidable in the anchor bracket so that the article support means is movable from a position adjacent the heat source to a position away from the heat source, and preferably, the support arm is releasable in the anchor bracket. In another embodiment of the invention the support arm is cranked adjacent its ends, to engage a pair of anchor brackets mountable on either side of the heat source.

Further, the invention provides apparatus for supporting an article adjacent the heat source, the apparatus comprising an article support means, and a support arm extending from the article support means engagable with a wall, framework or body member adjacent the heat source.

Preferably, the support arm is engagable with an anchor bracket which is in turn engagable with a wall, framework or body member adjacent the heat source, and preferably the support arm is releasably engagable with the anchor bracket, and may be slidable therein.

Additionally, the invention provides a kettle comprising a base having at least three side edges joined to a top portion having at least three side edges by side walls curving upwardly inwardly.

Preferably, the base and top have four side edges and are of rectangular construction. Preferably, a handle is provided on the top and the spout is provided on one of the narrower sides.

The invention will be more clearly understood from the following description of some preferred embodiments thereof given by way of example only with reference to the accompanying drawing in which:—

Fig. 1 is a perspective view of apparatus according to the invention illustrated in one position in front of portion of an open fire,

Fig. 2 is a perspective view of the apparatus of Fig. 1 illustrated away from the fire,

Fig. 3 is a partly exploded perspective view of the apparatus of Fig. 1,

Fig. 4 is a perspective view of a detail of the

Fig. 5 is a perspective view of apparatus according to another embodiment of the invention,

Fig. 6 is a plan view of the apparatus of Fig. 5,

Fig. 7 is a perspective view of a portable gas fired heater with apparatus according to a further embodiment of the invention mounted thereon,

Fig. 8 is a plan view of portion of the heater and the apparatus of Fig. 7,

Fig. 9 is a perspective view of a detail of the apparatus of Fig. 7,

Fig. 10 is a perspective view of portion of apparatus according to a still further embodiment of the invention,

Fig. 11 is a perspective view of a portable gas fired heater with apparatus according to other embodiments of the invention mounted thereon,

Fig. 12 is a front elevational view of a kettle according to the invention,

Fig. 13 is a side elevational view of the kettle of Fig. 12,

Fig. 14 is a front elevational view of apparatus according to a still further embodiment of the invention,

Fig. 15 is a plan view of the apparatus of Fig. 14, and

Fig. 16 is a front elevational view of portion of the apparatus of Fig. 14.

Referring to the drawings and initially to Figs. 1 to 4 thereof there is provided apparatus according to the invention indicated generally by the reference numeral 1 for supporting an article in front of a heat source, in this case bread to be toasted in front of a fire 2. The apparatus 1 comprises a support means 3 for the bread pivotally mounted on a support arm 4 so that the support means 3 may be pivoted through at least 180°, in this case 360°, to permit both sides of the bread to face the fire 2. The support arm 4 of sheet metal is pivotal intermediate its ends at 5 and is pivotally mounted on a mounting member, namely, an anchor bracket 6 which is releasably mounted on a wall or framework around the fire in this case the fire surround 7. This is described in more detail below.

The support means 3 in this case is sufficiently long to support two pieces of bread (not shown) side by side. It is formed from sheet metal material bent into a U-shape. A pair of side members 8 are joined by a base 9. The side members 8 as can be seen in Fig. 1 are of open construction formed by removing portions of the sheet metal prior to bending. It will be appreciated that it is desirable to have the minimum amount of metal in the side members 8 to permit the maximum transmission of radiant heat from the fire to the bread. The base 9 is pivotal on the support arm 4 by means of a pivot pin 10, and as already mentioned, can be pivoted through 360°. However, needless to say, it is only necessary that it should be pivoted through 180° to permit both sides of the bread to face the fire for toasting. A pivot pin 11 pivotally connects the two portions of the support arm at the pivot point

Dealing now with the anchor bracket 6, a pivot pin 12 connects the support arm 4 to the anchor bracket 6. The pin 12 may be releasable if desired. A slot 14 with a pair of holes 15 is provided in the anchor bracket 5 to permit the bracket to be releasably mounted on the fire surround 7. A pair of screws 16 secure the bracket to the surround 7 so that the slot is slidable relative to the screws 16. To remove the bracket it is moved in the direction of the arrow A into the position shown by broken lines in Fig. 2 so that the heads of the screws 16 align with the holes 15 for removal.

The apparatus 1 is secured to the surround 7 adjacent the fire 2 at any desired height. When it is not required, it may be pivoted away from the fire to one side as illustrated in Fig. 2. When it is desired to toast bread, the support arm 4 is pivoted so that the support means 3 is in a position in front of the fire, see Fig. 1, and bread is placed in the support means 3. When one side of the bread is toasted, the support means 3 is then rotated through 180° and the other side of the bread is toasted, at which stage the bread is removed.

Referring now to Figs. 5 and 6 there is provided apparatus 17 according to another embodiment of the invention also for toasting bread. This apparatus is substantially similar to that already described and similar components are identified by the same reference numerals. In this case three support means 3 are pivotal on a support bracket 18 by pivot pins 19. The support bracket 18 is pivotally connected to the support arm 4 by the pin 19 of the middle of the three pins 19. The centre pivot pin 19 engages a slot 20 shown by broken lines in the support arm 3. This permits longitudinal adjustment of the support bracket 18 along the support arm 3. In this case, each of the support means 3 are substantially similar to the support means 3 described with reference to Figs. 1 and 2 with the exception that they are so dimensioned that each supports a single slice of bread. It will be appreciated that in this embodiment of the invention each of the support means 3 may be pivoted independently of each other. This is particularly advantageous if one piece of bread should toast quicker than the others.

The operation of this apparatus is similar to that just described with reference to Figs. 1 to 4.

Referring now to Figs. 7 to 9, apparatus 21 according to another embodiment of the invention for supporting bread to be toasted is illustrated. In this case, the apparatus is particularly suitable for mounting on a portable gas fired heater 22. Three support means 3 substantially similar to that described with reference to Figs. 5 and 6 are mounted on a support arm in this case provided by a tubular bar 23. The tubular bar is cranked at 25 and 26 and the side pieces 28 and 29 are slidable in tubular brackets 30 which are secured to the side 31 of

position illustrated in broken lines in Fig. 8. The bread is inserted in the support means 3 and the bar 23 is then moved into the position illustrated in full lines in Fig. 8 and the first side of the bread is toasted. The bar 23 is then moved outwardly again from the fire, and each support means 3 rotated through 180° and the bar 23 is then moved inwardly again towards the fire to toast the second side of the bread. When the apparatus is not required it may be moved from the fire by sliding the sides 28 and 29 out of the tubular brackets 30.

Referring now to Fig. 10 there is illustrated an article support means according to another embodiment of the invention, for use with any of the apparatus already described. In this case, the support means comprises a base 9 and the sides 8 are formed by a plurality of wires 90 bent into artistic shapes. The wires 90 are secured in recesses 91 by sweating in with solder. The recesses 91 are formed by bending portions 93 of the base 9 upwardly and then bending two side portions 94 around to form the recesses 91. Four other portions 95 are also bent upwardly from the base 9 to form short sides.

This support means, in use, would be pivoted onto a support arm or support bracket by a pivot pin through a hole 96 in the base 9.

It will of course be appreciated that while the wire has been illustrated as being bent to form particular patterns any other patterns could be formed.

Referring now to Figs. 11 to 13 there is illustrated a portable gas fired heater showing two apparatus both according to further embodiments of the invention indicated generally by the reference numerals 41 and 42 respectively. The apparatus 41 is substantially similar to the apparatus 1 of Figs. 1 to 4 and similar components are identified by the same reference numerals. In this case, the article support means 3 is also formed from sheet metal and the sides 8 are of open construction formed by punching portion of the sheet metal away. As can be seen, the design formed by punching in this case is different to the design of the apparatus 1 of Figs. 1 to 4. The support arm 4 is provided by two pieces of angle section aluminium pivoted intermediate their ends at 5. An anchor bracket 6 substantially similar to the bracket 6 of Figs. 1 to 4 secures the apparatus 41 to the side panel 44 of the heater 40.

The apparatus 42 in this case supports a kettle 46 above and in front of a heater element 47 of the heater 40. The apparatus 41 comprises an article support means, which in this case is formed by an elongated base member 48 formed by longitudinal rods 49 joined by transverse steel rods 50. The ends of the rods 49 are bent upwardly to form end walls 51. A front wall is provided by a sheet metal guard 53 which is secured to a three sided frame 54 formed by bending a tubular steel member. A top portion

frame 54 extend parallel to each other and form support arms 57 to support the base 48 which is welded to the arms 57. The support arms 57 are cranked at 58 adjacent their ends and engage a pair of anchor brackets 59 which are secured to the sides 44 and 60 of the heater 40. Only one bracket 59 on the sides 44 is illustrated. The brackets 59 are of U-shape construction formed from sheet metal having a pair of side webs 61 joined by an intermediate web 62. Holes 63 in the sides webs 61 are provided to releasably engage the cranked portions 58 of the support arms 57. Needless to say, for safety, if desired, the cranked portion 58 of the arms 57 could be drilled to receive a clevis pin to prevent the support arms 57 being inadvertently knocked out of the brackets 59.

In use, the apparatus 41 is mounted on the heater 40 by sliding the cranked portions 58 of the arms 57 into the anchor brackets 59. When it is desired to remove the apparatus the portions 58 are merely removed from the anchor brackets 59.

Referring now to Figs. 12 and 13 the kettle 46 also according to the invention is illustrated. The kettle is shaped to neatly fit on the base member 48. The kettle 46 comprises a base 65 of rectangular shape, a top portion 66 also of rectangular shape, joined to the base 65 by four side walls 67 and 68 which as can be seen in the drawings are curved inwardly upwardly. The base 65 is illustrated by the broken lines, and as can be seen, is set up slightly from the ends of the side walls 67 and 68. A handle 69 is secured to the top 66 and a spout 70 extends from one of the side walls 67. The spout is both a filling and pouring spout, and may be closed by any suitable cap, for example, a valve incorporating a safety valve, with, for example, a whistle.

Referring now to Figs. 14 to 16 there is illustrated apparatus, according to a further embodiment of the invention for toasting bread in front of a fire 76. In this case, the apparatus comprises a pair of article support means 77 for supporting the toast. The support means 77 are substantially similar to those described with reference to Figs. 1 to 4 and similar components are identified by the same reference numerals. In this case, the support means 77 are again formed from sheet metal and a centre portion 78 of each side 8 is removed by punching. A support arm 79 of arcuate shape formed from sheet metal supports the support means 77 on pivots 10. Mounting members, in this case, ground engaging upstanding support members 80 support the support arm 79. The support members 80 are formed of sheet metal and have decorative patterns 81 as can be seen in Fig. 16. An intermediate support member 83 supports the centre of the support arm 79.

In use, when it is desired to toast bread, if it is not already in position, the apparatus 75 is placed in front of the fire with the support members 80

of the bread is toasted, the support means 77 are rotated through 180° and the other side of the bread is toasted.

It will be appreciated that although the apparatus has been described as having in some cases one support means, and in other cases, three support means, any number of support means could be provided. Indeed, in certain cases, it is envisaged that only two support means could be used, each support to take one slice of bread. Needless to say, many more could be used. Furthermore, it will be appreciated that although in some embodiments of the invention the support arm has been pivotal intermediate its ends, this is not necessary, one single rigid arm could be used. Additionally, it will be appreciated that anchor brackets and upstanding members have been described as mounting means for the apparatus, other suitable mounting means could be used. Furthermore, in the case of the apparatus described with reference to Figs. 4 and 5, other suitable constructions of support arms instead of the tubular bar 23 could be used. In fact, it is envisaged that the support arm need only be secured to one side of the heater. Furthermore, it will be appreciated that although the apparatus of Figs. 1 to 4 has been described for use for toasting bread in front of a fire, it could be used for heating, warming or toasting any other article. Furthermore, it will be appreciated that constructions of support means other than those described could be used. For example, if it was desired to warm or heat a tin of soup or the like, it will be appreciated that the support means could be of a different construction to support the article being heated. Additionally, it will be appreciated that other suitable constructions of support means could be used for supporting bread to be toasted. In certain cases, it is envisaged that a rectangular frame formed of wire could be used, or indeed, any other artistic design arrangements of wire or sheet metal or any other means could be used. Further, where wire is used to form the side member it could be connected to the base member by any other suitable means. Similarly, other artistic shapes could be used for the support arm.

It will be appreciated that while the apparatus 41 of Fig. 11 is illustrated for supporting a kettle, it could be used for supporting any other article, for example, a pot or a pan. Indeed, it will be appreciated that it could be used for supporting a kettle of any other shape other than that illustrated in Figs. 12 and 13. Further, the apparatus 41 could be mounted to the heater 40 by other types of brackets and such brackets will be well known to those skilled in the art. Indeed, it will be appreciated that it could be mounted to the heater by a bracket similar to the tubular bracket 30 of Figs. 7 to 9. In which case, it would not be necessary to crank the ends of the support arms 57. It will also be appreciated that the base member, end walls and front walls of the

Additionally, it will be appreciated that while the kettle has been described as having a rectangular top and base, tops and bases of other suitable shapes could be used, for example, triangular shape, square shapes or any other polygonal shapes.

Further, other suitable types of handles or spouts could be used.

It will also be appreciated that while the apparatus illustrated in Figs. 14 to 16 has been shown mounted on a mounting means provided by a pair of upstanding ground engaging support members, other suitable types of mounting members could have been used.

Further, while the apparatus of Figs. 7 to 9 has been illustrated as having a pair of support arms slidable in anchor brackets, it is not necessary that the support arm should be slidable. In fact, they could if desired be rigidly mounted, or in certain cases they could be mounted directly to the sides of the heater, for example, by screwing or any other suitable means.

It will of course be appreciated that anchor brackets other than those described in the various embodiments of the invention could be used. Needless to say, it is not necessary for the support arms of the various embodiments of the invention to be pivoted intermediate their ends, a single rigid support arm could be used, or if desired, the support arm could be pivoted in a number of positions intermediate its ends.

Where the apparatus is manufactured from sheet metal, it is envisaged that the sheet metal will be chrome-plated, and in certain cases it is envisaged that brass could be used, or a combination of brass or chrome or any other metal could be used.

Furthermore, although the apparatus has been described for use with an open fire or portable gas heater, it could be used with any other heat source, for example, an electric fire.

Additionally, the apparatus could have a single support means for supporting one slice of bread.

CLAIMS

1. Apparatus for supporting an article adjacent a heat source, the apparatus comprising an article support means pivotal on a support arm, and a mounting member for mounting the support arm adjacent the heat source, the article support means being pivotal on the arm to permit both sides of the support means to face the heat source.

2. Apparatus as claimed in claim 1 in which one end of the support arm is connected to the mounting member and the other end is connected to the article support means.

3. Apparatus as claimed in claim 1 or 2 in which the support arm is pivotally mounted to the mounting member so that the article support means is pivotal from a position adjacent the heat source to a position away from the heat source.

4. Apparatus as claimed in any preceding claim

5. Apparatus as claimed in any preceding claim in which the mounting member is provided by an anchor bracket for mounting the support arm to a wall, framework or body member adjacent the heat source.
6. Apparatus as claimed in claim 5 in which the anchor bracket is releasably mountable on the wall, framework or body member.
7. Apparatus as claimed in any of claims 1 to 4 in which the mounting member is provided by an upstanding support member.
8. Apparatus as claimed in claim 7 in which the upstanding support member is a ground engaging member.
9. Apparatus as claimed in claims 7 or 8 in which a pair of spaced-apart upstanding support members are provided and the support arm extends between each upstanding support member.
10. Apparatus as claimed in any preceding claim in which the article support means is to support bread to be toasted and comprises a pair of spaced-apart side members of open construction for supporting the bread therebetween.
11. Apparatus as claimed in claim 10 in which the article support means comprises a base member as the side members are upstandingly mounted on the base member, the base member being pivotal on the support arm.
12. Apparatus as claimed in any preceding claim in which two article support means are mounted side by side on a support bracket pivotal on the support arm.
13. Apparatus as claimed in claim 12 in which the two article support means are pivotal on the support bracket.
14. Apparatus as claimed in any preceding claim in which the support arm is pivotal intermediate its ends.
15. Apparatus as claimed in any preceding claim in which the mounting member is adapted for mounting the apparatus in front of a fire, and the apparatus is pivotal from a position in front of the fire to a position to one side of the fire.
16. Apparatus as claimed in any of claims 1 to 14 in which the mounting member is adapted for mounting the apparatus in front of a gas heater.
17. Apparatus as claimed in any of claims 1 to 14 in which the mounting member is adapted for mounting the apparatus in front of an electric powered fire.
18. Apparatus as claimed in claim 1 in which the mounting member is an anchor bracket and the support arm is slidable in the anchor bracket from a position adjacent the heat source to a position away from the heat source.
19. Apparatus as claimed in claim 18 in which the support arm releasably engages the anchor bracket.
20. Apparatus as claimed in claims 18 or 19 in which a pair of anchor brackets are provided on each side of the heat source and each end of the support arm engages an anchor bracket, the
21. Apparatus as claimed in claim 20 in which the support arm is cranked adjacent each end thereof to engage each anchor bracket.
22. Apparatus as claimed in any of claims 18 to 21 in which the anchor brackets are adapted for mounting on each side of a portable gas heater.
23. Apparatus for supporting an article adjacent the heat source, the apparatus comprising an article support means, and a support arm extending from the article support means engagable with a wall, framework or body member adjacent the heat source.
24. Apparatus as claimed in claim 23 in which the support arm is engagable with an anchor bracket which in turn is engagable with the wall, framework or body member adjacent the heat source.
25. Apparatus as claimed in claim 24 in which the support arm releasably engages the anchor bracket.
26. Apparatus as claimed in claims 24 or 25 in which the anchor bracket is of U-shape having a pair of side webs joined by an intermediate web, and holes in the side webs engagable with the support arm.
27. Apparatus as claimed in any of claims 24 to 26 in which the support arm is slidable in the anchor bracket.
28. Apparatus as claimed in any of claims 24 to 27 in which the support arm is cranked adjacent its end to engage the anchor bracket.
29. Apparatus as claimed in any of claims 23 to 28 in which the article support means comprises a base member of open construction.
30. Apparatus as claimed in claim 29 in which the base member is of elongated construction, and has a pair of end walls and a front wall extending upwardly from the base member.
31. Apparatus as claimed in claim 30 in which the end walls are of open construction and the front wall is of closed construction.
32. Apparatus as claimed in any of claims 23 to 31 in which a pair of support arms are provided to engage a pair of anchor brackets.
33. Apparatus as claimed in any of claims 23 to 32 in which the apparatus is adapted for mounting above and in front of a portable gas fired heater.
34. A kettle for use with the apparatus of claims 23 to 33 in which the kettle comprises a base having at least three side edges joined to a top portion having at least three side edges by side walls curving upwardly inwardly.
35. A kettle as claimed in claim 34 in which the base and top have four side edges.
36. A kettle as claimed in claim 35 in which the top and base are of rectangular shape.
37. A kettle as claimed in any of claims 34 to 36 in which a handle is provided on the top portion.
38. A kettle as claimed in any of claims 34 to 37 in which a spout extends from one of the side

39. A kettle as claimed in claim 38 in which the spout is on one of the narrower side walls.

40. A kettle as claimed in either claim 37 or 38 in which the spout is both a filling and pouring

5 spout.

41. Apparatus substantially described herein

with reference to and as illustrated in any of the accompanying drawings.

42. A kettle substantially described herein with
10 reference to and as illustrated in any of the accompanying drawings.

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PUBN-DATE: September 19, 1984

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EUR-CL_(EPC): F24B001/182; F24B001/26, A47J037/07 , A47J037/08

ABSTRACT:
The invention provides apparatus for supporting an article in front of a heat source, for example, bread to be toasted, and provides a support means (3) having a base (9) and side members (8) for receiving the bread. The support means (3) is pivotal on a support arm (4) which is in turn pivotal in an anchor bracket (6). When one side of the bread is toasted, by rotating the support means through 180 DEG the other side may be toasted. <IMAGE>